

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Lordsburg Water Supply System Has Levels of Fluoride Above Drinking Water Standards

*Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.*

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for fluoride. The MCL for fluoride is 4.0 mg/L and is determined by a running annual average (RAA). The average level of fluoride in samples taken during the last year is shown in the table below.

Sample Location	Quarter/Year	Result (mg/L)
Entry Point #1, Facility ID 20027004	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023	6.44
Entry Point #1, Facility ID 20027004	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024	6.13
Entry Point #1, Facility ID 20027004	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024	6.58
Entry Point #1, Facility ID 20027004	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2024	6.58
Running Annual Average		6.4 mg/L

### What should I do?

**Children under the age of nine should use an alternative source of water that is low in fluoride.** In addition, you may want to consult your dentist about whether to avoid dental products containing fluoride. Adults and children over age nine should consult their dentist or doctor and show him/her this notice to determine if an alternate source of water low in fluoride should be used.

### What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Fluoride in small amounts helps prevent tooth decay. *\*However, some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or greater may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums.\** Although it takes many years of exposure to fluoride for bone disease to develop, mottling can occur after a relatively short period of exposure.

### What happened? What is being done?

The Lordsburg water supply system continues to fail to meet the drinking water standard for fluoride. At this time our fluoride removal system is out of service and there is no plan to bring this system back online. Instead the city of Lordsburg is pursuing a different treatment option and has recently finished a pilot study as of December 2023.

The city of Lordsburg is moving ahead with replacing the old ion exchange fluoride removal system with a new reverse osmosis (RO) treatment plant. This project is now 65% completed and will have a construction date soon. Until this issue is resolved, and the fluoride levels are under the drinking water standard, we will continue to provide these notices to the public, along with updates as progress is made.

### For more information, please contact:

Glenda Greene at 575-542-3421, Lordsburg Water Supply System, NM3522812, 409 W Wabash Ave, Lordsburg, NM 88045

*\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**